

Putting Life-Long Skills in the Hands of Nebraska Youth





Introduction

A physical education curriculum entitled "Archery: On Target for Life" was created and implemented in 2002 by the Kentucky Departments of Education and Fish and Wildlife Resources. In just three years, over 300 schools enrolled in Kentucky with students in 4 - 12 grades learning life long skills. This program became the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) that has now spread across the US and into Canada and Australia.

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission implemented NASP in 2004 and currently has enrolled and trained 200 schools which will reach close to 25,000 youth this year within the state.

Designed to teach International (Olympic) style archery, the core content covers archery history, safety,

technique, equipment, mental concentration, and self-improvement. Before presenting the two-week archery course, teachers will complete a one day NASP Basic Archery Instructor (BAI) workshop.

Students of the course will shoot at bulls-eye targets placed before an arrow resistant net in their gymnasium, or outdoors. Equipment used is modern and

state-of-the art, designed to fit every student. Thanks to support from the archery industry, the \$5,000 worth of equipment used in the program can be acquired for only \$2,645\frac{1}{2}. (The Nebraska Game and

Parks Commission is currently providing assistance to schools to help secure the needed kits.

TEACHERS REPORT

- Students are enthusiastic about learning archery
- Student behavior and attendance is improved on archery days
- Students that historically resisted PE classes are eager to participate in archery
- Students who excel in archery class are not only the stereotypical athletes

How Do I Get My School Enrolled?

The Commission is currently seeking to expand this unique program across the state in several ways. The first step is to complete & submit the School Application. The NGPC can then help with the ordering procedure and the school's preferred method:

- 1. Schools provides \$2,664¹ to purchase the archery kit & receive Basic Archery Instructor training
- 2. Schools provides \$1,332¹ & seeks assistance from the NGPC (& it's partners) to purchase the archery kit & receive Basic Archery Instructor training to qualify for assistance schools must:
 - a. Teach NASP in-school for minimum of 5 years
 - b. Encourage interested students to take part in regional and/or state tourmanents
- For further information contact: Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Aaron Hershberger @ 402/471-6144 or Wes Sheets, NASP Coordinator @ 402/466-9040
- > An instructor training workshop will be scheduled to meet demand future.

¹ Private schools are subject to excise tax, which may increase price.

About the Program

Development

- A joint venture between the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and Nebraska schools
- \triangleright A Curriculum that actually exceeds national standards with units of study for grades 4-12
- Also contains core content material for math, science and literature
- > Designed to provide 2-week instruction in Junior International Style Target Archery
- ➤ Utilizes new and standardized equipment sets designed to fit every student, be easy to teach and learn, modern and safe

Why Teachers Like the NASP Program...

- Adds diversity and interest to the classroom
- > Teaches a life-skill to PE students
- ➤ Complies with national PE standards
- ➤ Accessible to all students

What Teachers Have Found With NASP...

- School attendance is improved
- Student behavior is improved all day
- Kids of all genders, sizes and abilities are having
- > Students are buying personal archery equipment
- After-school archery clubs are forming



success

Archery Equipment

Each school will utilize a standardized archery kit containing the following:

Bows

12 Genesis bows (10 right hand and 2 left hand) – a compound bow that will fit all student draw lengths without adjustments, regardless of stature.

Arrows

Five dozen full length (31 inches) aluminum shaft arrows.

Targets

Five International (*Olympic*) style, long-life targets with multi-colored bulls-eye scoring face and sturdy base & wheels.

Backstop Net

A 30- foot long backstop net hung a few feet behind targets to help catch arrows. The net is easily supported by basketball or volleyball poles.

Equipment Repair Kit

To help you get the most out of your equipment investment and keep it in good working order for years of service.



Teacher Training

The NASP Basic Archery Instructor (BAI) workshop has become the standard of archery instruction. The workshop covers:

➤ Range Layout

> Archery Safety

➤ Shooting Form/Coaching

> Equipment

> Competition

> Equipment Care

Such certification gives each school the backing of a national certification organization. In 2002, the National Safety Council reported archery more accident free than most common sports including football, basketball, baseball, volleyball or swimming. The National Alliance for the Development of Archery reports there has never been a documented archery injury in a school program.

Training

- > Training sessions are scheduled with NGPC approved and NASP-certified instructors
- > To promote reality, training is hosted in the gym of an enrolling school
- > Schools should send 2-3 identified instructors that will or may be working with the program
- An affordable lunch is generally provided by the host school cafeteria
- > Teachers will be trained as Basic Archery Instructors (BAI) by NGPC personnel and local educators.